



KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

NEWS RELEASE

No. 11-091

October 28, 2011

MEDIA CONTACT: Lisa Y. Gross

Office: (502) 564-2015 Cellular: (502) 330-5063 E-mail: lisa.gross@education.ky.gov

NCLB WAIVER APPLICATION POSTED FOR COMMENT

(FRANKFORT, Ky.) – The Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) has posted the state's application for flexibility under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965, which was reauthorized in 2001 as the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act.

KDE welcomes public comment on the state's application, which is posted on KDE's Unbridled Learning page. Comments and feedback may be sent to eseawaiverrequest@education.ky.gov. Comments will be accepted until Tuesday, November 8.

To help states move forward with education reforms designed to improve academic achievement and increase the quality of instruction for all students, in September, President Barack Obama and U.S. Education Secretary Arne Duncan [outlined](#) how states can get relief from provisions of NCLB in exchange for serious state-led efforts to close achievement gaps, promote rigorous accountability and ensure that all students are on track to graduate college- and career-ready.

Since the passage of NCLB, Kentucky has used a two-tiered accountability model for its public schools and districts that provides both state- and federal-level designations. If the state's application for flexibility is accepted, the Unbridled Learning Accountability Model would provide a single designation for both state and federal purposes.

The proposed accountability model also may be seen on the Unbridled Learning page.

(more)

Visit our website at <http://www.education.ky.gov>.

Page 2 – ESEA/NCLB Waiver Request

The deadline for submission of the flexibility request is November 14, and the U.S. Department of Education will review applications in December. As of October 20, 42 states have indicated that they will request flexibility.

States can request waivers of 10 provisions of NCLB, including determining Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP), implementing school improvement requirements, allocation of federal improvement funding and more. States must address four principles in their requests for flexibility:

- college- and career-ready expectations for all students
- recognition, accountability and support for schools and districts
- support for effective instruction and leadership
- reduction of duplication and unnecessary reporting requirements

See more details on the flexibility opportunity at <http://www.ed.gov/esea/flexibility>.

##